



# FIRST THINGS FIRST

*The right system for bright futures*

Arizona Early Childhood Development & Health Board  
Pinal Regional Partnership Council

Meeting Minutes  
April 21, 2010

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## Welcome and Call to Order

The Pinal Regional Partnership Council was held on Wednesday, April 21, 2010 at the Ak-Chin Community Center, 48227 W. Farrell Road, Maricopa, AZ 85239.

Regional Council Chair Mezzio called the meeting to order at approximately 1:44 P.M.

Council Members in attendance:

Melanie O'Neil, Barbara Mezzio, Bryant Powell, Christina Jenkins, Charity Russell, Mary Allen,

Council Members not in attendance:

Louis Manuel and Arnolando Hernandez

Council Members in attendance via teleconference:

Mary Kyle

First Things First Staff in attendance:

Michelle Katona, First Things First, Assistant Director; Marla Chamberlain, First Things First, Regional Manager; Aimee Kempton-Sarosi, First Things First, Regional Coordinator, Christine Cramer, First Things First, Program & Financial Analyst; Teri Lippens, First Things First, Financial & Program Analyst and Sam Brown, First Things First Administrative Assistant Central East Region.

Public in attendance:

None

## Discussion and Possible Approval of Meeting Minutes

The Council reviewed the minutes of the March 17, 2010 special session and the March 17, 2010 regular meeting.

A Motion was made by Member Allen to accept the March 17, 2010 special session minutes, seconded by Member Russell. The motion carried 7-0.

A Motion was made by Member O'Neil to accept the March 17, 2010 regular meeting minutes, seconded by Member Jenkins. The motion carried 7-0.

## Call to the Public

Chair Mezzio made a Call to the Public. There were two participants from the public that answered the Call to the Public.

The first was Mark Knight; Mr. Knight has children enrolled in programs supported by First Things First. Mr. Knight requested that we keep First Things First alive and involved in the needs of children.

The second public member to answer the call was Stephanie Machado; Ms. Machado child is enrolled in programs that are supported by First Things First. Ms. Machado informed the Council of the accomplishments that her child has made by being enrolled in these programs. Ms. Machado informed the Council that this was her first child and First Things First has helped her to raise her child by providing resources to educate both parent and child.

Coordinator Kempton-Sarosi requested that the Council hear some items out of order. The first item was a part of the Regional Coordinator's Report.

#### **Regional Coordinator's Report**

Ms. Kempton-Sarosi informed the Council that Michelle Katona, Assistant Director, will be providing an update on the statewide communications plan. Ms. Katona informed the Council that various media sources will be used in the regional areas. First Things First is working to create bill board ads, radio ads, newspaper ads, and movie theatre ads. Ms. Katona informed the Council that drafts were presented to Director Rhian Allvin yesterday. These drafts will be ready by the end of May beginning use in June. The Council's will be able to determine which ads they would like to use in their Regional Areas. Ms. Kempton-Sarosi requested that the Council skip Discussion of Regional Partnership Council Membership Review Process and Update and Discussion of the Pinal Regional Needs and Assets Report.

#### **Discussion and Possible Approval of SFY2011 REWARD\$ Strategy**

On April 21, four present Regional Partnership Council members declared possible conflicts of interest and rescued themselves from the vote for the record. It appeared to the staff and the Regional Council that a quorum of the Council had declared a possible conflict of interest and accordingly rescued themselves from the voting on this item. Therefore, the Regional Council proceeded with a vote under the Rule of Impossibility.

Chair Mezzio asked the Council Members that have a Conflict of Interest with Valley of the Sun United Way and Pinal United Way to declare a Conflict of Interest at this time.

Member Russell declared a Conflict of Interest.

Chair Mezzio declared a Conflict of Interest.

Member Jenkins declared a Conflict of Interest.

Member O'Neil declared a Conflict of Interest.

Ms. Kempton-Sarosi explained that this item has been tabled several times due to lack of Council Members without a Conflict of Interest to take action.

Chair Mezzio stated, thus far, four present members, or a majority of this Council, have declared a conflict of interest with the discussion and possible approval of the SFY2011 Reward\$ Strategy. As a result, I am invoking the Rule of Impossibility which states that members can act, upon making their conflicts of interest known in the official agency record.

Chair Mezzio explains to the Council what will be received as a bonus in this Strategy.

A motion was made by Member Allen to approve the SFY2011 Reward\$ Strategy in the amount of \$50,000, seconded by Member Kyle. Roll call vote was called, 6-0. Member Jenkins abstained during the vote.

#### **Discussion and Possible Approval of SFY2011 Home Visitation Strategy**

Chair Mezzio asked the Council Members that have a Conflict of Interest with Gila Pinal Community Child Services.

Member O'Neil declared a Conflict of Interest.

Member Russell declared a Conflict of Interest.

This item will be tabled for later when more Council Members are present to establish a quorum of the Council.

**Sensory Screening RFGA: Recommendation and Possible Approval**

Ms. Kempton-Sarosi explained to inform the audience that we will be moving into executive session for the next four items unless we get the quorum we will probably come back to this item that has been tabled. What we will do is moving executive session the councils will go into each item. We will bring you back in if you plan to come back in. But you do have to leave the room when we go into executive session. We would like to remind the council and members of the public that only those non council members reasonable necessary to the executive discussion may attend executive session all others please leave the room after the motion has been made. Please take all your materials including briefcases or purses if you will. In addition I remind all Council Members and staff that mention of matters discussed in executive session must be kept confidential by those attending pursuant to ARS 38-431.03c. Exceptions in some very limited circumstances such as requests about open meeting law investigations from the Attorney General's Office is the only time that we're allowed to discuss outside of executive session. So please remind executive staff and everyone that is going to be handled as open meeting law requirements in executive sessions so you are aware.

Chair Mezzio asked the Council Members that have a Conflict of Interest with any of the agencies listed to please declare it at this time.

Member O'Neil declared a Conflict of Interest; Member O'Neil is the CEO of the Pinal Gila Community Child Services that put in a proposal.

Member Russell declared a Conflict of Interest; Member Russell is a Board Member for the Pinal Gila Community Child Care Services that submitted a proposal.

This item will be tabled for later when more Council Members are present to establish a quorum of the Council.

**Oral Health Screening RFGA: Recommendation and Possible Approval**

Chair Mezzio asked the Council Members that have a Conflict of Interest with any of the agencies listed to please declare it at this time.

Member Russell declared a Conflict of Interest; Member Russell is the Executive Director of United Way that applied for this program.

Member O'Neil declared a Conflict of Interest, Member O'Neil conflict is because Member Russell is serving on the Pinal Gila Community Child Services Board.

Chair Mezzio declared a Conflict of Interest, Chair Mezzio employer is a partner with the United Way on this RFGA.

Member Jenkins declared a Conflict of Interest; Members Jenkins has an affiliation with Central Arizona College.

A motion was made by Member Jenkins to approve the Oral Health Screening RFGA recommendation by the review committee, seconded by Member O'Neil. The motion carried, 7-0.

**Insurance Enrollment RFGA: Recommendation and Possible Approval**

Chair Mezzio asked the Council Members that have a Conflict of Interest with any of the agencies listed to please declare it at this time. There were no Conflicts of Interest declared with this agenda item.

A motion was made by Member Allen to approve the review committee's recommendation, seconded by Vice Chair Powell. The motion carried, 7-0.

**Community Based Professional Development RFGA: Recommendation and Possible Approval**

Chair Mezzio asked the Council Members that have a Conflict of Interest with any of the agencies listed to please declare it at this time. There were no Conflicts of Interest declared with this agenda item.

A motion was made by Member O'Neil to not approve the Community Based Professional Development Recommendation, seconded by Member Allen. The motion carried, 6-0. Member Russell abstained during the vote.

**Discussion of Regional Partnership Council Membership Review Process**

Ms. Kempton-Sarosi informs the Council that the Interviews will be set up for May 14, 2010. Ms. Kempton-Sarosi explained that all terms will switch into four year terms. This will be done to help stagger the Council when it comes time for terms to expire. Ms. Kempton-Sarosi explained that there must be at one community member on

the interview panel. Manager Chamberlain informed the Council of possible combinations of the interview panel. Chair Mezzio requested to be a member of the interview panel. Member Russell requested to be another member of the interview panel. Ms. Kempton-Sarosi informed the Council that the final member must be a community member.

**Update and Discussion of the Pinal Regional Needs and Assets Report**

Ms. Kempton-Sarosi informed the Council that the final list of information of the Needs and Assets will be available at the next meeting. Possibility that the information that will be provided to the public will be available in Spanish, the vendor requests to know what the needs are of the Council.

**Regional Coordinator's Report**

Ms. Kempton-Sarosi informed the Council that the review committee has been established with one Council Member on the committee. Ms. Kempton-Sarosi explained that the Food Security Strategy is out to RFGA. Ms. Kempton-Sarosi informed the Council that more information in regards to the Communication Plan will be provided at a later date. Ms. Kempton-Sarosi informed the Chairs and Vice-Chairs meeting will be April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2010. Ms. Kempton-Sarosi informed the Council on the status of the Loan offer to the Legislature. The Council wished to express thanks to Council Member Manuel for providing the meeting location and refreshments for the Council Members and Public body.

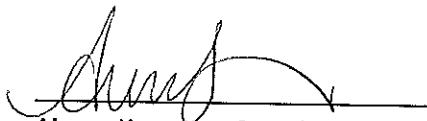
**Next Meeting**

The next Pinal Regional Partnership Council will be held on Wednesday, May 19, 2010 at the Central Arizona College Residential Life Building, 8470 North Overfield Road, Coolidge, AZ 85128.

**Adjournment**

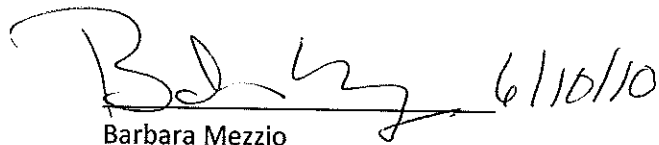
A motion was made by Member Russell to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Member Jenkins. Meeting adjourned at approximately 3:43 P.M. The motion carried 6-0.

Submitted By:



Aimee Kempton-Sarosi  
Regional Coordinator,  
Pinal Regional Partnership Council

Approved By:



Barbara Mezzio  
Chair, Pinal Regional Partnership Council